



*SENATOR*  
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***McManus Minutes***



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**Wednesday, November 26, 2003**

*If you have any questions, comments, or requests please feel free to contact my office at any of the methods listed above.*

**- Michelle**

**SENATE FIGHTING FOR MICHIGAN JOBS**

When my colleagues and I return from the fall break, our concentration will be on fighting for Michigan jobs and invigorating the state economy to create more employment opportunities. Already our Republican JOBS package has made significant progress in the Senate. JOBS — “Job Opportunities for Business Success” — is the nine-point plan proposed by Senate and House Republicans to jumpstart Michigan’s economy and get Michigan residents back to work. With the holidays approaching, we want to do everything we can to get people back to work and financially secure. To date, the Michigan Senate has acted on seven of the nine JOBS package components. The two remaining components will be dealt with when we return. These components provide a tax incentive for small start-up businesses by exempting them from most taxes during their first two years of operation and implement forest management changes to protect the environment and create new job opportunities in Michigan’s timber industry.

**NORTHPORT EDUCATION ROUNDTABLE OPEN TO PUBLIC**

Parents and teachers will be taking part in an open education roundtable on Monday, December 1, 2003, at the Northport Schools Auditorium from 9 a.m. to noon. This roundtable discussion will provide an opportunity for open dialogue to address the ever changing obstacles facing schools. Please come and take part in this session with an experienced group of education leaders. Panel members for this session will be: State Senator Wayne Kuipers, Chair of the Senate Education Committee; Carolyn Curtin, State Board of Education; Rick Cross, Superintendent of Northport Schools; State Representative David Palsrock, Manistee; and Greg Webster, Superintendent of Kaleva Norman Dickson School District.

### **MIP LAW GETS STRICTER FOR REPEAT OFFENDERS**

Legislation was passed in the Senate recently that would amend the minor in possession law to give law enforcement and prosecutors additional tools needed to curb increasing underage drinking. SB 637 provides that upon successful completion of a probationary program for a first MIP offense, the conviction will be dropped from the person's record. The bill will also allow judges the option of ordering limited jail time for repeat offenders who do not complete the court-ordered probation program. The bill now goes to the House for consideration.

### **DRUNK DRIVING PREVENTION MONTH**

December has been designated National Drunk Driving Prevention Month. With the holidays approaching, my colleagues and I in the Senate want to remind you to practice safe driving tips to protect family and friends from the dangers of drunk driving. If you're going to drink, don't drive – instead choose a sober designated driver or call a taxi. In addition, remember that Michigan's drunk driving standard has been lowered to .08 blood-alcohol content and the penalties have been increased. Don't take a chance – don't drink and drive. For more information on Michigan's new drunk driving law or to receive a free brochure explaining it, please contact my office toll free at **(866)-305-2135** or by email at [senmmcmanus@senate.michigan.gov](mailto:senmmcmanus@senate.michigan.gov).

### **HAPPY HOLIDAYS**

I hope that you and yours' have a safe and Happy Thanksgiving Day!

### **UNSUBSCRIBE**

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